

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046334

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, MASS, EAID, XE

SUBJECT: EA/RA WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/RA - ROBERT J. MARTENS

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. PRESIDENTIAL DECISION MEMORANDUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS
AND POLICE EQUIPMENT MEMO (CONFIDENTIAL)

AS NOTED IN EARLIER STATUS REPORTS, AN ACTION MEMORANDUM
TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY ON HOW TO APPLY HUMAN RIGHTS
CONSIDERATIONS TO EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING FOR POLICE
FORCES LAID OUT VARIOUS OPTIONS WITH DIFFERENT RANGES
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OF FLEXIBILITY. THIS MEMORANDUM HAS NOW BEEN REDRAFTED
IN LIGHT OF PD-30 ISSUED ON FEBRUARY 17 SINCE THE LATTER
CONTAINS A CLAUSE THAT PROHIBITS THE SUPPLYING OF MATER-
IAL OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT EXCEPT IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUM-
STANCES TO "POLICE, CIVIL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES
OR OTHERS PERFORMING INTERNAL SECURITY FUNCTIONS OF
GOVERNMENTS ENGAGED IN SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS."

WE UNDERSTAND THAT PD-30 WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE FIELD

SHORTLY. WE ARE CONCURRING IN THE NEW VERSION OF THE ACTION MEMO TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TODAY.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS AND IFIS (CONFIDENTIAL)

AT A MEETING OF BUREAU HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICERS YESTERDAY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MARK SCHNEIDER, HA, SUMMED UP THE VISIT OF AN INTERAGENCY HUMAN RIGHTS TEAM OF WHICH HE WAS A MEMBER TO CANADA AND SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. THE VISIT WAS IN ACCORD WITH HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION REQUIRING US TO TRY TO INFLUENCE IFIS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF HUMAN RIGHTS FACTORS IN THEIR LOAN CONSIDERATION PROCESS. THE TEAM ENDEAVORED TO PERSUADE THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED TO EXCHANGE HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION, TO ACCEPT THE LEGITIMACY OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS A LOAN FACTOR, AND TO INFLUENCE IFIS TO CHANNEL MORE AID TO COUNTRIES WITH GOOD OR IMPROVING HUMAN RIGHTS RECORDS. RECEPTION WAS APPARENTLY MIXED, WITH MOST SUPPORT COMING FROM SCANDINAVIAN NATIONS.

3. IFI LOAN PASSES HUMAN RIGHTS TEST BUT FAILS ON PALM OIL. (CONFIDENTIAL)

THIS MORNING OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE IBRD VOTED
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NO ON A LOAN TO MALAYSIA. IRONICALLY, THE LOAN WAS CHIEFLY DIRECTED AT PROVIDING FUNDS FOR DRAINAGE OF AN AREA OCCUPIED BY MALAY SMALL HOLDERS WHOSE ANNUAL INCOME IS BELOW THE OFFICIAL GOM POVERTY LINE. LOAN STUDIES INDICATED IT WOULD BENEFIT THEM BY ENABLING GREATER RICE OUTPUT. TREE CROPS, RUBBER AND PALM OIL, WERE ONLY SECONDARY. THE LOAN MADE ITS WAY THROUGH THE IGHRFA WITH EASE BUT FOUNDERED ON TREASURY'S BELIEF THAT THERE IS A COMMITMENT TO CONGRESS TO OPPOSE ANY POTENTIAL INCREASE IN PALM OIL EXPORTS.

4. ARMS TRANSFER CEILING MANAGEMENT (CONFIDENTIAL)

ALTHOUGH THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE HIS DECISION ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE MIDDLE EAST AIRCRAFT PACKAGE, THE PICTURE OF THE BALANCE AVAILABLE UNDER THE FY 79 ARMS TRANSFER CEILING IS FAR FROM CLEAR. IT WILL PROBABLY REMAIN THAT WAY UNTIL THE INTENTIONS OF CONGRESS REGARDING THAT PACKAGE BECOME MORE APPARENT. PRESS REPORTS THAT SUB-CEILINGS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR PARTICULAR COUNTRIES OR REGIONS ARE NOT TRUE; EVERYONE WILL HAVE A CHANCE AT THE GROSS BALANCE REMAINING UNDER THE GLOBAL

CEILING, WHATEVER THAT BALANCE TURNS OUT TO BE. ALTHOUGH
A SYSTEM OF PRIORITIES WILL PROBABLY BE FORMULATED,
TIMING MAY ALSO BE IMPORTANT.

5. MALAYSIAN DETAINEES (CONFIDENTIAL)

PATT DERIAN HAS RECEIVED AN INQUIRY FROM A PROFESSOR
AT BARNARD REGARDING DR. SYED HUSIN ALI, A UNIVERSITY
OF MALAYA PROFESSOR DETAINED IN FEBRUARY, 1976,
ALLEGEDLY FOR SUPPORTING COMMUNIST CAUSES AND, MORE
IMPORTANTLY, MALAY STUDENTS FROM UM IN THEIR CONFRONTA-
TION WITH THE GOM IN 1975/76. WE HAVE DRAFTED A LETTER
REPLYING TO THE PROFESSOR AS WELL AS A CABLE TO EMBASSY
KUALA LUMPUR REQUESTING THAT THEY LOOK INTO THE DETEN-
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TION OF SYED HUSIN AND TWO MALAYSIAN CHINESE ABOUT WHOM
WE HAVE BEEN QUERIED BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GROUPS
IN THE U.S. WE ARE NOW WAITING FOR HA/HR CLEARANCE. VANCE

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